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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COUNTY USE OF TAKE-HOME VEHICLES

A Report on Cars, Costs & Controls

Kingston, NY (April 4, 2013)...With 26% of Ulster County's passenger vehicles and light trucks assigned to employees as "take-home" vehicles (82 of 318), the Office of the Ulster County Comptroller conducted a review of the procedures relating to the monitoring and managing of the fleet of commuting vehicles.

"By randomly sampling 37% of those vehicles identified as 'take-home' it became apparent that centralization, better record keeping and further procedural clarification could result in cost savings," County Comptroller Elliott Auerbach stated. "By calculating the commuting cost, using the industry standard of average fuel cost, maintenance, tires, insurance, fees, and depreciation and in some cases financing, it was evident that taxpayers could be annually underwriting \$369,000 to support this initiative," Auerbach continued.

The Comptroller stated that "our Report presented nine (9) essential findings, as well as twelve recommendations, which will improve both efficiency and economy. What I am most pleased about is the opportunity to work closely with County Executive Hein's Office and have a dialogue with his staff. With his cooperation we can work together to improve the administration, accuracy and accountability of the 'take home' fleet."

The Report can be found at www.ulstercountyny.gov/comptroller.

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The mission of the Ulster County Comptroller's Office is to serve as an independent agency of the people and to protect the public interest by monitoring County government and to assess and report on the degree to which its operation is economical, efficient and its financial condition sound.